



Sheila Dixon

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Fire Department Promotes First Female EMS Battalion Chief

Baltimore, MD (October 17, 2007) – Mayor Sheila Dixon and Fire Chief William J. Goodwin, Jr. announced the promotion of Laura Shiloh as the First Female EMS Battalion Chief in the history of the Baltimore City Fire Department.

“Battalion Chief Shiloh is yet another example that in this city – and in this administration – people will be judged on their merit,” said Mayor Dixon. “She will play a vital role in ensuring that Baltimore and its citizens have the very best team of first responders in the country.”

This event represents a monumental day in the history of the Baltimore City Fire Department. It is the first time ever that a female has been promoted to the rank of Battalion Chief. EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Chief Laura Shiloh, a twenty year veteran, entered the department as a Paramedic in 1987 and served in that capacity until being promoted to EMS Lieutenant in October of 1999. She was promoted to EMS District Captain in March of 2003 and finally ascended to the rank of EMS Battalion Chief in September 2007.

“This is quite a celebratory occasion and represents the great strides and contributions that women have made within the fire service,” said Fire Chief Goodwin.

As EMS Battalion Chief she will be responsible for the day to day administrative and operational aspects of the Emergency Medical Services Division. In addition to her responsibilities, Chief Shiloh coordinates activities for the department’s Paramedic Bike Team and serves as a member of the Accident Review Board. In 2005, at the department’s Annual Medals Day Ceremony Chief Shiloh was presented with the Frank T. Barranco Award.

Chief Shiloh currently maintains her certification as a Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic and has received training at the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute as a Fire Service Instructor, EMS Officer I, Special Operations Command, Hazardous Materials Incident Analysis and Accident Re-construction by the Maryland State Police in addition to various fire service modalities.

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